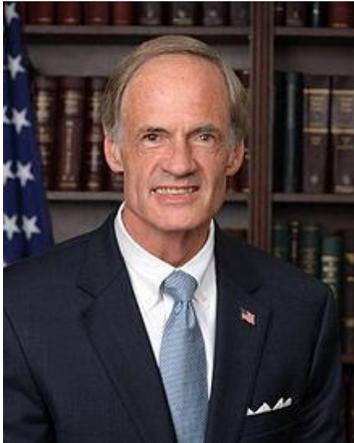




**To:** Arts Action Fund Members  
**From:** Americans for the Arts Action Fund  
**Date:** August 2, 2018  
**Re:** Tom Carper and the Arts, 2018 Candidate for Delaware U.S. Senate

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**Name:** Tom Carper  
**Party:** Democrat  
**Occupation:** United States Senator from Delaware  
**Incumbent:** Yes  
**Years Served:** 2001-Present, 17 years  
**Born:** January 23, 1947 (age 71) in Beckley WV  
**Previous Public Offices Held:** 71st Governor of Delaware (1993-2001), Member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Delaware's at-large district (1983-1993), Treasurer of Delaware (1977-1983).  
**Other Positions:** Carper was a Naval Flight Officer in the U.S. Navy (1968-1973), he served three tours of duty in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War.  
**Educational Background:** Received his Bachelor of Arts from Ohio State University and his Master of Business Administration from the University of Delaware.

**Contact Information:**

- Campaign Website: <https://www.carperfordelaware.com/>
- Campaign Email: <https://www.carperfordelaware.com/contact/>
- Headquarters Address: Post Office Box 2882 Wilmington, DE 19805
- Headquarters Phone: 302-328-5774

**Social Media Platforms:**

- Facebook: @TomCarperforDE 1.7K followers
- Twitter: @TomCarperforDE 2.2K followers
- Instagram: N/A

### 2018 General Campaign Prediction:

- Solid D (Source: [Cook Political Report](#))
- Last General Election: 66.4% (Source: [Cook Political Report](#))
- Last Primary Election: 87.9% (Source: [Cook Political Report](#))

**Personal Arts Background:** N/A

### Notable Arts Quotes:

- *"A budget is a reflection of our values as a nation; numbers are black and white, and they show clearly where our priorities lie and what we as a society hold dear. President Trump's first budget unequivocally confirms that his priority is appeasing his most extreme supporters rather than governing in a responsible way. To call these cuts draconian would be an understatement. They go far beyond what any reasonable Republican would propose, which is why so many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle have already said this proposal is dead on arrival."* - Sen. Tom Carper said about the Trump Administrations Fiscal Year 2018 budget proposal that included proposed elimination of the NEA and NEH (Source: [Delaware Online](#)).
- With the proposed FY 2018 budget, state arts groups would face cuts that would carve about \$600,000 in humanities money and at least \$693,000 in arts funding out of state programs. That's how much the National Endowment for the Arts gives to the Delaware Division of the Arts and the National Endowment of the Arts gives to the Delaware Humanities Forum (Source: [Delaware Online](#)).
- *"For almost a decade, I have been working with federal officials, state officials, community leaders and activists to establish a national park in Delaware. With today's vote, we move our state another step closer toward the reality of a national park that preserves and teaches the lessons of our state's heritage. I cannot wait for the day when families all across this country and the world will plan their vacations around the Delaware National Park, to learn how the First State helped launch the most enduring experiment in democracy that the world has ever known - the United States of America."* -Tom Carper stated on November 10, 2011 in celebrating the Key Committee's passage of Delaware National Park Bill (Source: [Press Release](#)).

### Arts Action Fund Congressional Report Card:

- [2016 Congressional Report Card](#): Thumbs up
- [2014 Congressional Report Card](#): Thumbs up
- [2012 Congressional Report Card](#): B

### Examples of Actions on the Arts

- **NEA Funding:**
  - Voted yes to pass a conference report (HR 2361) that appropriates \$27.73 billion for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for FY 2006. Conference report adopted by the Senate with a vote of 99 to 1 on July 29, 2005 (Source: [Congress.Gov](#)).

- **Tax Bills:**
  - Voted no on *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act* (HR 1) sponsored by Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX) which would double the standard deduction limiting specific incentives for income tax deductions of gifts to charity, becoming severely limited to only the top five percent of taxpayers who itemize their deductions. The Senate voted 51 to 48 on December 13, 2017 to pass the bill in a party-line vote. (Source: [New York Times](#))
  - Voted no to adopt a conference report (HR 4297) that authorizes and extends \$69.96 billion in tax credits and cuts through 2010. Conference report adopted in the senate with a vote of 54 to 44 on May 11, 2006 (Source: [Congress.Gov](#)).
  
- **Every Student Succeeds Act:**
  - Vote on S.1177—Senate bill to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, titled *Every Child Achieves Act* (ECAA) on July 16, 2015. (Source: [2016 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))
  - Vote on S.1177—Final legislation to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, now called the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA), replacing No Child Left Behind on December 9, 2015. (Source: [2016 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))
  
- **Transportation Appropriations Bill:**
  - Amendment offered by Sen. Tom Coburn (R-OK) to halt funding for the Transportation Enhancement program, which includes funding eligible for historic preservation and museums, within the FY 2010 Transportation Appropriations Bill. (Source: [2010 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))
  - Amendment offered by Sen. Tom Coburn (R-OK) to prohibit funds within the 2010 Transportation Appropriations Bill from being used for any museum. (Source: [2010 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))
  - Motion to table an amendment offered by Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) to prohibit Transportation Enhancement funds in the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act of 2012 from being used on “lower-priority projects,” such as transportation museums, historic preservation and public art projects. (Source: [2010 Congressional Arts Report Card](#))
  
- **Letter:**
  - Cosigned a “Dear Colleague” letter on March 16, 2018, asking Senate appropriators to fund the NEA and NEH at no less than \$155 million in FY 2019. The letter was led by Representative Louise Slaughter. (Source: [Arts Action Fund](#))

**Arts Membership:** N/A

### Information on Arts and the Economy in Delaware:

- In Delaware, arts and culture was a \$0.9 billion industry—equivalent to 1.3 percent of the state economy—in 2015. There were a total of 9,101 arts and culture industry jobs.<sup>1</sup>
- A 2017 analysis of Dun & Bradstreet data found 1,829 businesses employed 7,374 people in Delaware involved in the creation or distribution of the arts—3.61 percent of all businesses and 1.41 percent of all employees.<sup>2</sup>

### Sample Advocacy Questions on the Arts:

- Senator Carper, with the implementation of *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA), states now have more responsibility for providing a well-rounded education – including the arts. Would you support full funding (\$1.6 billion) of the Well-Rounded Education provisions of ESSA, including data collection of arts education programs by the states and advocating for the integration of the arts into STEM education?
- Nonprofit arts organizations are charities, and on average, 25 percent of their annual budgets rely on donations made by individual taxpayers to serve the public good. Unfortunately, the pool of itemizers has been significantly diminished as result of the recent changes in the federal tax reform law. Would you support a Universal Charitable Deduction, so all taxpayers have the incentive to donate?
- The budget of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) was cut in half during the 1990s. With its current funding of \$153 million, the NEA spends just 47 cents per American—half the cost of a pack of gum. Would you support a plan to increase federal arts funding to the NEA to \$1 per American, so that arts organizations in your state or district can present even more accessible arts programs for all its residents?

### About ArtsVote2018:

- The mission of ArtsVote2018 is to advance the role of arts in the 2018 midterm elections by providing arts advocates, arts leaders, elected officials, and media with needed information to effectively advocate for the arts.

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<sup>1</sup>Arts and cultural production are defined as those industries that produce arts and culture related commodities and generally follow the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS). Employment estimates for ACP-related industries are for “direct” employment. [Arts and Culture Production Satellite Account](#) (ACPSA), 2015; U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and National Endowment for the Arts, 2018.

<sup>2</sup>Findings count active U.S. businesses registered with Duns & Bradstreet in the following categories: museums and collections; performing arts; visual art/photography; film, radio, and television; design and publishing; schools and services. [Creative Industries: Business & Employment in the Arts](#), Americans for the Arts, 2017.